

~ Welcome ~

SHARON CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Eve 7p

December 24, 2019

Prelude "Gesu Bambino"
By: Pietro A. Yon

Welcome and Announcements

*Greeting

*Call to Worship

Hymn "Star-Child" vs. 1 TFWS p. 2095
Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

People: Come into our hearts today.

Hymn "Star-Child" vs. 2 TFWS p. 2095
Leader: Open our hearts today, Lord Jesus.

People: Help us to receive you.

Hymn "Star-Child" vs. 3 TFWS p. 2095
Leader: Help us to reach out to each other, Lord Jesus

People: Illuminate our path this night.

Hymn "Star-Child" vs. 4 TFWS p. 2095
Leader: Remind us of the needs of the world, Lord Jesus.

People: Help us to witness to your Light by serving others.

Hymn "Star-Child" vs. 5 TFWS p. 2095

All: Sing Glory to God for God's love has been born anew!

*Hymn "Joy to the World" UMH No. 246

*Opening Prayer

God of Surprising Love and Hope, we come this evening to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Child born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts tonight as we hear the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Pastor Jane & Dave Piehl
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs. 1 UMH No. 211

Anthem by the Choir "The Angels Song" Sung by: Choir
by: Mary Kay Beall

Prayer of Confession and Pardon

All: Lord of Light and Hope, our minutes and hours have been swallowed up in preparation for this night and for the coming day. We have been so caught up in the preparations for gatherings and gifting that we have pushed aside the wonder of what you have done for all Creation. Forgive us when we so easily get entangled in our own plans and forget to pay attention to the true event. Help us to relax and listen, instead of rush and shout. May the songs of the angels, the surprise of the shepherds, and the joy of the Holy Family become part of our preparations and our lives. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts and our spirits to again hear the old, old story, spoken by new voices in new ways. Remind us again of your never-changing love for us. Prepare us to serve you by serving others. This night we offer this prayer of our hearts to you, gracious God. Amen.
Pastoral Prayer

Litany

Leader: We thought we lived in the light, but the darkness of fear, anger, & alienation had taken over.

People: We wondered where God was.

Leader: God banished the darkness away in the light of the Christmas Star

People: God's light was found around a manger, a place where the Holy Child given to sleep.

Leader: God called to the shepherds through the voices of the angels whose first words were "Do not be afraid. There is Good News for you!"

People: And in that instance, all the people who felt that God didn't care about them, had Hope.

Leader: The star shone brightly and shines brightly in our lives.

People: Now no darkness can shut it out.

Leader: Go, Tell the Good News. Christ is Born!

People: Praise be to God who has poured God's Light and Love into our lives once again. Now and forever. Amen.

Offertory

The Questions of Christmas "Will You Make Room?" Sung by: Choir

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

Word and Response

Prayer for Illumination

Screen

Scriptures

Isaiah 52:7-10

p. 681

John 1:1-14

p. 977

Evening Message: Star Light, Star Bright Pastor Jane Piehl

Response to Message "All is Well" Solo by: Millie Frambaugh

Thanksgiving and Communion

UMH No. 12

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

*The Passing of the Light

*Hymn

"Silent Night"

UMH No. 239

*Benediction

Postlude

"There's a Song in the Air"

Arr. By: Cindy Berry

*Indicates congregation to stand.

Jane Piehl

Pastor

Charlie Tramel

Scripture Reader

Millie Frambaugh

Music Director, Pianist

Bill Baldwin, Ann Passmore

Greeters

Acolytes

'Twas the Night Before Jesus Came



*'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.*

*The children were dressing to crawl into bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.*

*When out of the East there arose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!*

*When what to m wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
I knew in a moment that must be the day!*

*The light of His face made me cover my head
It was Jesus! Returning just like He had said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.*

*In the Book of Life which He held in His hand
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
When He said "It's not here" my head hung in shame.*

*The people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without a sound
While all the rest were left standing around*

*I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.*

*In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the last call
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!*



Poinsettias

Given By:

Bill & Nancy Baldwin in Celebration of our Eight
Beautiful Grandchildren

Bernhard Family in Memory of Phil Bernhard

Lois Csontos Nielsen in Memory of Chester Csontos and
Don Nielsen

Vicky Bogus in Memory of Tom Bogus, Bob & Ellen
Ingersoll

Millie Frambaugh in Celebration of the Birth of the birth
of Christ.

Millie Frambaugh in Honor of Grandparents

The Lahoski Family in Memory of Arlene Lahoski

The Shaw & Lahoski Families in Memory of May Ellen &
Joe Hege, Edith Shaw, Carroll Shaw, Alex Hege, Betty
Backer

The Mravetz Family in Memory of Joe & Jennie Mravetz,
Pearl & Clarence Singleton.

Ann Passmore in Memory of John Passmore

Pylypiak Family in Memory of Jan Duncan

Ken & Eunice Ullery

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